



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## *Department of Medical Assistance Services*

PATRICK W. FINNERTY  
DIRECTOR

November 7, 2003

SUITE 1300  
600 EAST BROAD STREET  
RICHMOND, VA 23219  
804/786-7933  
800/343-0634 (TDD)

Ms. Theresa Pratt  
Director, Division of Integrated Health Systems  
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
Mail Stop S2-14-26  
7500 Security Boulevard  
Baltimore, MD 21244

Dear Ms. Pratt:

On behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia, I am submitting the enclosed proposal for a Section 1115 waiver research and demonstration project to allow the Department of Medical Assistance Services to conduct research on factors that influence decisions on employment by individuals with disabilities through the design of a Medicaid Buy-In program. As a result of legislative action during the 2003 Session of Virginia's General Assembly, the Department was directed to pursue this waiver authorization to establish a Medicaid Buy-In program limited to 200 persons, which would enable the State to control costs while developing infrastructure and a program model from which to gain experience. With the support of a Medicaid Infrastructure Grant, this proposal was developed with input from Virginia's Disability Commission as well as our grant's statewide advisory committee, which is broadly representative of the disability community.

We look forward to working with your staff to gain approval of our waiver request so that we can enable individuals with disabilities to be employed and access Medicaid coverage. Please contact Wayne Turnage, Director of the Division of Policy and Research, at 804-371-8851 if you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "PWFinnerty", written over a horizontal line.

Patrick W. Finnerty  
Director

Enclosure  
PWF/JQ

Cc: Carey O'Conner Appold  
Ed Hutton